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Letter dated 20 May 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Rwanda to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Acting upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to write to the members of the Security Council to reject outright the entire contents of the letter from the Permanent Representative of the Democratic Republic of the Congo dated 16 May 2002 (S/2002/548).

In my letter of 11 April 2002 (S/2002/422), I pointed out to the Kinshasa authorities that the Security Council knows perfectly well that the Rwandan Patriotic Army has not been in Kisangani since the summer of 2000. The Kinshasa Government's accusations regarding what it alleges Rwanda did in Kisangani are therefore false and totally unfounded.

It so happens that the reality on the ground is that the Kinshasa Government is manipulating certain elements of the former Mobutist Zairian Armed Forces (ex-FAZ) which were integrated into the Rassemblement congolais pour la démocratie (RCD/Goma), and is using them to sabotage RCD by acts of mutiny. Thus, ex-FAZ elements which were reintegrated into RCD/Goma have taken over the local radio station in Kisangani and have used it to call for the murder of Congolese Tutsi. It is the disastrous philosophy of genocide, of extermination of the other which continues to consume the region as it consumed Rwanda in the spring of 1994. Six Congolese Tutsi were killed as a result of these calls for murder. The Kinshasa Government, working hand-in-hand with those who planned and carried out the genocide and used the same method of inflammatory calls broadcast over the radio against the Tutsi in Rwanda, is seeking to continue the dirty work in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. That is what is going on in Kisangani, nothing else.

Clearly, these calls to murder are a cover for the Kinshasa Government's insidious attempts to systematically sabotage the Inter-Congolese Dialogue.

My Government requests that the Security Council tell the Kinshasa authorities to stop these delaying tactics, which are costing human lives, and to commit themselves with real determination to pursuing and concluding with dignity a totally inclusive political agreement with the other Congolese partners.

Concerning the immediate and unconditional withdrawal demanded by the Permanent Representative of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the Rwandan Government wishes to remind the Kinshasa Government that the conditions for the withdrawal of foreign forces from the Democratic Republic of the Congo do indeed

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exist and were defined and ratified by the Lusaka Agreements to which the Democratic Republic of the Congo is a signatory. Therefore, to demand an unconditional withdrawal is to totally negate those Agreements.

Finally, my Government takes this opportunity to ask the Security Council to demand instead that the Democratic Republic of the Congo:

1. Negotiate an inclusive political agreement within the very precise framework of the Inter-Congolese Dialogue rather than in the context of the Sun City coup d'état against the Lusaka Agreements by Mr. Kabila and Mr. Bemba;

2. Expel from its territory the terrorists of the Armée pour la libération du Rwanda, an organization which is on the international list of terrorist organizations operating in Kinshasa and elsewhere in the territories under the control of the Kinshasa Government;

3. Disarm the former Rwandan Armed Forces (ex-FAR) and the Interahamwe militias, who planned and carried out the genocide and who are supported by the Government of President Joseph Kabila;

4. Submit to an embargo on the sale, delivery or transfer of weapons to the Kinshasa Government, which distributes them to the ex-FAR, the Interahamwe militia and all the other negative, genocidal forces that operate from the territory of the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Anastase **Gasana**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative